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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/510,254	10/05/2004	Jan Cornelus Albert Dekkers	NL 020265	5107

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PHILIPS INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY & STANDARDS
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EXAMINER

NGUYEN, HIEU P

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2817

DATE MAILED: 05/12/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/510,254

Applicant(s)

DEKKERS ET AL.

Examiner

Hieu P. Nguyen

Art Unit

2817

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION:

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 01 March 2006.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-10 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1, 2, 5 and 10 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 3, 4 and 6-9 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a). Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____

- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Specification

Applicant is required to update the status (pending, allowed, etc.) of all parent priority applications in the first line of the specification. The status of all citations of US filed applications in the specification should also be updated where appropriate.

The specification has not been checked to the extent necessary to determine the presence to all possible minor errors. Applicant's cooperation is requested in correcting any errors of which applicant may become aware in the specification.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless --

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 1-2, 5 and 10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Andreou et al. (U.S. 6720830).

Regarding claims 1 and 10, Fig. 5 of Andreou discloses a differential amplifier for amplifying an input differential signal having two components (IN1, IN2) substantially in anti-

phase to each other and generating an output differential signal having two differential components (Output 1, Output2), said amplifier comprising a pair of inverters (voltage to current converters, M2 and M3) coupled to a pair of adders (note: the drain node can be read as an adder or adder components) the inverters receiving the input differential signal, the amplifier being characterized in that it further comprises a pair of controllable buffers (note: M4 and M5 can be read as a pair of controllable buffers that convert voltage to current) for receiving the input differential signal and outputting a signal to the pair of adders, a bias of the said pair of buffers being cross-controlled by the input differential signal for controlling an amplification of said pair of controllable buffers (see col. 9, lines 47-60), thus meeting claims 1 and 2. In addition, the circuit of Andreou is capable of performing as a receiver as mentioned in col. 1, lines 16, meeting claim 10 as expected.

Regarding claim 5, Andreou discloses everything claimed as applied to claim 2. In addition, the circuit of Andreou is the differential amplifier, wherein the pair of inverters (Fig. 5, M2 and M3) comprises a pair of common emitter coupled transistors, thus meeting claim 5.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 3-4 and 6-9 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments filed 03/01/2006 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

It has been considered that applicant has amended claim 1 to read, "...a pair of adders components". However, it is still the opinion of the office that the amended claim(s) do not overcome the rejection of Andreou et al. (U.S. 6,720,830). Broadly, the circuit node can be read as an adder or adder components, meeting the claimed language of "a pair of adder components" in claim 1, since applicant didn't claim any specific adder components in the claim. In addition, the circuit of Andreou clearly shows both the bases and emitters of the buffer transistors are coupled to the input signals to control the buffer bias (note: the emitters of the buffer transistors are coupled to the input signals through the resistors R_f as shown in Fig. 5).

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Hieu Nguyen whose telephone number is 571-272-8577. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8-5.

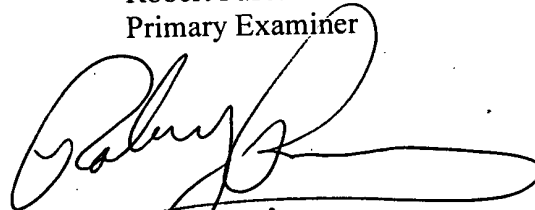
If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Robert Pascal can be reached on 571-272-1769. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Hieu Nguyen
AU: 2817

hn

Robert Pascal
Primary Examiner

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Robert Pascal', written over a horizontal line.

Robert Pascal
Supervisory Patent Examiner
Technology Center 2800